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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

9. (currently amended) A method for formatting an optical information recording medium, comprising the steps of:

performing a power calibration by a drive,

determining a first recording power to be used for recording data, utilizing a result of the power calibration, and

~~formatting the medium by said drive at~~ setting a second recording power for formatting which is equal to or lower than the first recording power for recording data determined as the result of the power calibration, and

formatting the medium by said drive at said second recording power for formatting which is equal to or lower than the first recording power for recording data.

10. (previously presented) An optical information recording medium formatted by the method of claim 9.

11. (previously presented) A method for formatting an optical information recording medium, said method comprising the steps of:

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performing a power calibration of the medium by a drive;
determining a first recording power to be used by said drive for recording data on the medium, based on a result of the power calibration;
determining a second recording power for formatting, by multiplying the first recording power by a coefficient of 1 or less; and
formatting the medium by said drive in accordance with said second recording power for formatting.

12. (previously presented) An optical information recording medium formatted by the method of claim 11.